

QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

# ARTSTART

2026

*ArtStart* is an exhibition program designed to encourage children's participation in the visual arts and is open to kindergarten to grade six students from across the region. The notion of an exhibition curated by young people, for young people, and displaying art created by young people, is an important part of the Terry and Nan Woodward *ArtStart* legacy.

We're excited to invite students from Kindergarten to Grade 6 to be part of the next *ArtStart* exhibition at the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery.

## THEME: CELEBRATING CREATIVITY, CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

2026 marks 25 years of *ArtStart*! To celebrate all the amazing artworks that primary school students have created over this time, we want you to create works that showcase the theme '*Celebrating creativity, connection and community*'.

Using a diverse range of colours, forms, textures, shapes and sources of inspiration, students are encouraged to create artworks that show audiences how they celebrate special days, people and achievements in their lives.

Teachers may submit a maximum of 15 pieces of work per school. Think about vibrancy, happiness, what you want to celebrate about your world and how you can present that in art form.

We suggest selecting works that explore and experiment with pattern, texture and materials, in a range of mediums – such as drawing, painting, photography, mixed media, and more.

For inspiration, visit QVMAG's diverse range of exhibitions on display at the Queen Victoria Museum at Inveresk and the Queen Victoria Art Gallery at Royal Park. Both open from 10am to 4pm daily.

**ArtStart entries must be delivered to the Museum at Inveresk, 2 Invermay Road, Inveresk, by 4pm, Friday 30 October 2026 with works no larger than 30cm x 60cm. Please view the Preparing and Sending Works section for more information.**

## TIPS FOR TEACHERS

Here are some ways you might like to explore the *ArtStart* theme with your students:

- > How do we celebrate important events in our class, family and community?
- > How do you celebrate your achievements?
- > What colours and visuals say 'celebration', 'connection', 'community' to you?
- > Why is celebrating creativity, connection and community important?
- > Why do you like to create art?
- > What would you like to celebrate in 25 years?

### PREPARING AND SENDING WORKS

A label **MUST** be submitted with each artwork. Teachers must use the template available at [www.qvmag.tas.gov.au/Learn/Schools-educators/Art-competitions](http://www.qvmag.tas.gov.au/Learn/Schools-educators/Art-competitions).

- > Clearly label each artwork with the name of the student and place in folders with a completed Teacher/School label (included in the template) attached to the front of the folder.
- > Selected works will be exhibited at the Museum from Saturday 19 December 2026.
- > Each class/school submission is also asked to include a short artist/curator statement to explain their theme and why they chose their artworks. This must be no more than 100 words.

### RELEVANT CURRICULUM LINKS

VISUAL ARTS | FOUNDATION TO YEAR 6

#### Exploring and responding

Explore ideas, practices, works and contexts for the arts in the lives of individuals and groups across cultures, times, places and communities.

Explore ways in which the arts communicate cultural and aesthetic knowledge, purpose, meaning and emotion.

#### Developing practices and skills

Develop creative and critical thinking skills using and manipulating the elements, principles, conventions and/or processes of arts forms, and observing, reflecting, analysing, evaluating and/or documenting their own and others.

#### Creating and making

Create individual and/or collaborative work using available resources/materials in diverse existing, emerging and innovative forms, styles and/or genres.

#### Presenting and performing

Students share their work using available spaces, materials, technologies and/or digital tools, plan, select and design their presentations.

They observe and, as appropriate, participate in interactions between artists and audiences.

#### General Capabilities

- > Personal and social capability
- > Critical and Creative Thinking

### NOTIFYING ARTISTS

Schools will be informed by email which of their students' works have been selected. QVMAG will also provide an invitation to these children, their teachers, and the school's principal for the exhibition launch.

### SELECTION CRITERIA

Schools may submit work from more than one year level. Teachers may submit a maximum of 15 pieces of work per school. Artwork must be completed by a child from Kindergarten to Year 6. Art will be selected based on representation from each school, year level and suitability for a curated exhibition, but within these parameters work is selected on the basis of:

- > Strength of visual message
- > Elements of design
- > Originality in interpretation of theme.

### COLLECTION OF ARTWORK

Unselected artwork, and artwork from previous exhibitions, must be collected from the Museum either at the exhibition opening or at a later time by arrangement. After *ArtStart* closes, teachers will be notified when they can collect artwork featured in the exhibition. QVMAG is unable to return works to schools and no work will be kept longer than one month after the exhibition closes.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT [enquiries@qvmag.tas.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@qvmag.tas.gov.au)

[www.qvmag.tas.gov.au](http://www.qvmag.tas.gov.au)

